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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, November 9, 2009, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2009

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. JACKSON of Illinois).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 7, 2009.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JESSE L. JACKSON, Jr. to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Nothing genuinely human should ever fail to raise an echo in our hearts, Lord, if we are true believers in our common creation and disciples of the Supreme Master.

As members of a common humanity, our history, our origins of birth and even our different persuasions of religious belief will never dull our awareness that we are already one on a very deep level and quite interdependent upon one another.

Guide us to a greater understanding of one another. Bridge our differences with Your own powerful love for each of us.

Lift all blinders, Lord; that we may truly see one another as singular and unique yet we are able to come together, Lord, before You, with You and in You, now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. TIM MURPHY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 10 requests for 1-minute speeches from each side of the aisle.

HEALTH CARE

(Ms. SCHWARTZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, finding a uniquely American solution to ensure that all Americans have access to meaningful, affordable health coverage has been an unfulfilled goal for decades. Today, we have the opportunity to make this moral and economic imperative a reality.

The Affordable Health Care for America Act meets the goals of health care reform: enhanced consumer protections for those with health coverage; new, affordable choices for individuals and small businesses; strengthening Medicare for our seniors, with better prescription drug coverage and access to primary care; improved delivery of services with better health outcomes for all Americans; and the containment of rapidly rising costs of health coverage.

It builds on America's public-private system, and it is paid for now and into the future.

The status quo is unaffordable and unsustainable. Health care reform benefits all of us: families, seniors, businesses, and the Nation. I am honored to have been a part of bringing this bill to the floor, to this historic moment, and I look forward to voting for this landmark legislation and meeting the goals of health care reform for all Americans. Now is the time to act.

HEALTH CARE

(Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as we are about to deal with this health care bill before Congress, many of us have still attempted to try to improve the bill. I offered three amendments to the Rules Committee last night, and they were rejected. One of them was to say: before we cut \$500 billion out of Medicare, maybe we ought to fix it first.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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